

# THE KNOXVILLE INDEPENDENT

EQUAL RIGHTS TO ALL.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS

SPECIAL PRIVILEGES TO NONE.

OF THE COMMON PEOPLE.

VOL. XXIII, No. 41

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE.

SATURDAY, JULY 28 1917.

WHOLE NUMBER 1185

## SIR ERIC GEDDES



Sir Eric Geddes is the new first lord of the admiralty in the British cabinet. He is one of the handful of great Britishers who emerged out of comparative obscurity with the advent of the war. Until hostilities began he was scarcely known outside of railroad circles, and American railroad men knew him best, for it was in the United States that he got his training. He is a Scotchman, born in India, and is forty-one years old.

## BACK TO PARTY LINES

Congress Retrogrades and Is Playing Politics Now.

New Fight Brewing Over Food Bill and There's No Telling When It Will Go to Wilson.

Washington, July 26.—Partisanship has made its appearance in the war congress. The unanimous action with which Republicans have joined the Democratic brethren in voting money and everything else that President Wilson needs to fight the war has come to a halt.

When the house met Republican Leader Mann had his forces in line to register a party vote in favor of that section of the food bill which creates a joint congressional committee on war expenditures. President Wilson's announced opposition to this provision as registering lack of confidence on the part of congress in his ability to conduct the war, has not deterred the Republican leader or his followers.

Mann was ready to renew the fight he began. He insisted the house is entitled to a separate vote on the section creating the joint committee on war expenditures. Declaring that the Republicans are unanimously in favor of the provision, Mann asserts that the measure will have no chance in a conference in which the majority are Democrats.

Although the Republicans can delay sending the food bill to conference, Chairman Lever of the house agricultural committee is sure he has the votes to put his original program through. Fortified by a special rule, if unanimous consent is to be denied, Mr. Lever has only to force a vote to send the bill to conference disagreeing with all the senate amendments. This will give the house conferees just what Lever has asked, an opportunity to meet the senate conferees, free from any instructions from the house.

That the war committee provision will be stricken out by the conferees, just as Leader Mann predicted, is a foregone conclusion. But the conference will have plenty else to fight about. The hottest controversies are due over the prohibition issue, the minimum price of \$2 a bushel for wheat, and the increase of the food administration personnel to three members, thus scattering the authority which the president wants centered in Herbert Hoover.

## FORTY MILLIONS EACH DAY

England's Daily War Expense Will Soon Be as High as That Declares Reginald McKenna.

London, July 26.—Before many more months have elapsed the war will be costing England \$40,000,000 a day. This prediction was made by Reginald McKenna, former chancellor of the exchequer and one of the foremost experts in England on fiscal affairs.

The newspapers comment at some length upon the revelations made on Tuesday by Chancellor Law in his speech moving the new vote of credit of \$3,250,000,000. The war is now costing England nearly \$34,000,000 daily, and this sum is mounting steadily. Despite this staggering sum Chancellor Law declares that England can never be beaten financially by her enemies, especially as the United States has come to her aid.

## MAY DRAFT THE FOREIGNERS TOO

Unless Aliens Are Taken in Now, Burden Will Be Unfair to Native Born.

## ALLIED RECRUITING FAILURE

Nations Allied With Us Probably Glad to See Their Slackers Here Forced Into Fight Against Germany's Armies.

Washington, July 26.—Congress is going to order the drafting of all aliens of military age, except subjects of the central powers, unless the state department, which has taken a hand in the question, can furnish a very convincing argument to the contrary.

Polls have disclosed an overwhelming sentiment in favor of making foreigners living in the United States and escaping military service in their native lands bear their share of the draft burden here. Particularly is this sentiment strong among representatives and senators from the more densely populated centers, where alien exemption will cause the draft burden to fall heavily on the native-born American population.

### Awaiting Law Report.

The Chamberlain resolution, declaring all aliens, except those of the central powers, subject to the draft on the same terms as American citizens, unless otherwise provided by treaty with the nation of which they are subjects, is now before the senate military affairs committee. Action by the committee has been held up pending the receipt of a report by the state department on the resolution, but unless the state department makes a strong case against the measure, the committee is determined to report it favorably.

The state department has expressed the fear that those behind the resolution, it is understood, that it might produce diplomatic complications. It is generally believed in the senate however, that the allied nations would be glad to have the United States draft their nationals who have been using this country as a refuge from military service.

### Not Much Luck.

All the allied governments have the privilege, under a recent act of congress, to recruit their own nationals in this country, but they have made so little success of it that it is believed they would be pleased to have the United States press their "slackers" into the American army.

The Chamberlain resolution would add approximately a million men to the list eligible to the draft. It would allow exemption to foreigners on claim of the diplomatic representative of their native land, but would compel the deportation of such exempted persons unless they left the country voluntarily within 90 days.

### Situation in Chicago.

Chicago, July 26.—Exemption boards today discovered that one-fourth of the men registered and drafted in Chicago are exempt as alien citizens.

Out of a total of 314,116 registered men, 78,553 are exempt as aliens.

Three chairmen of local exemption boards said they feared the war department's ruling including registered aliens in computing division quotas gravely imperiled their ability to fill their division quotas, even though every registered man was called.

In district No. 49, 2,108 of the 2,923 registered men are aliens, making it necessary to draw the quota of 377 soldiers from 815 registered Americans.

The exemption board says disqualifications because of physical disability and exemptions of married men probably will make it impossible for it to furnish its quota.

## DECIDES AGAINST FARMERS

Commerce Commission Declares There Must Be No More Car-Door Merchandising Done.

Washington, July 26.—The long-established practice of selling merchandising and produce from the doors of freight cars on sidings was broken up by the interstate commerce commission in a decision which upheld railroad interests in opposition to the contentions of the Nebraska state grange and other western farming and merchandising interests. It has been the practice for farmers to ship produce to cities and sell from the car doors, taking advantage of the free time allowed by the railroad before the collection of demurrage. The commission declared this service is neither the shipper's right nor the carrier's duty and that a railroad is a transportation agency which cannot be expected to perform extraneous services of this character.

## THE ROOKIE



(Copyright.)

## DEATH DECREES FOR MUTINOUS RUSS SOLDIERS

Dictator Kerensky Uses "Iron Policy" to Enforce Some Needed Discipline.

## SITUATION NOW VERY SERIOUS

The Germans Make Big Gains as Slavs Fall Back to Line Held Last Summer—Women Fight Against Enemy Drive.

Copenhagen, July 26.—Dictator Kerensky's "iron policy" toward restoring discipline and order, has found its first expression in the passage of death sentences upon a number of mutinous soldiers and pro-German anarchists, said a dispatch from Petrograd.

Orders have been issued to all Russian army officers to deal with mutinous soldiers in the sternest possible manner, as the new dictator is convinced that drastic measures are necessary to stop the defections on the front.

Proclamations have been posted in Petrograd, Moscow and other important cities as well as on the firing line announcing the new attitude of the government towards offenders.

"Every person guilty of attempting to thwart the efforts of the government to restore order and discipline will be adjudged guilty of treason and dealt with accordingly," said the notices.

The suggestion is being urged upon the council of workmen's and soldiers' delegates that public funeral services be held in Petrograd for the Russian officers who perished in great numbers while trying to rally their mutinous troops against the Germans in Galicia during the present fighting.

### Enemy Advance on Russ.

Petrograd, July 26.—The present line of the southwestern front is approximately that occupied after General Brusiloff's drive last summer, except before Tarnopol, where the enemy succeeded in pushing farther into Russian territory. The fate of the latter town virtually was decided with the Germans holding the suburb just across the Sereth river, within easy gun range.

The Germans chose the junction point of the Seventh and Eleventh armies for beginning their offensive, the first blow being struck between Zhoroff and Pebako on a 20-mile front. Without great effort, as is admitted in the Russian official communications, they pursued their advance to the line of the Sereth.

This uncovering of the Russian positions south of Tarnopol forced a retirement all along the diagonal line southwestward, cutting the Strypa and Zlota Lipa to Halycz and the Lomnica. The Russians have been obliged to retire to the right bank of the latter river and Halycz seriously is threatened, with a prospect of a further retirement to the original Russian positions east of Stanislau, occupied before General Brusiloff's advance.

Stanislau is being evacuated by the Russians. The Germans have crossed the Sereth river in the region of Mikulicz (south of Tarnopol), defeating Russian detachments. South of the Dunester the Russians are retiring eastward.

### War Council Meets.

Paris, July 26.—Great secrecy marks the new allied council of war. It was understood that initial sessions have already begun. It was reported that the conference was called to deal with the Balkan question.

## U. S. SUBMARINE BLOWS UP AND 5 OF CREW DEAD

Manila, P. I., July 26.—Five American sailors were killed and three injured in an explosion which wrecked the interior of the submarine A-7 at the Cavite naval station at four o'clock yesterday afternoon. The cause of the explosion was the ignition of gasoline vapor which had collected in a pocket within the submarine. The manner in which these fumes were collected is not yet known. The men killed were: Lieut. (jr. grade) Arnold Marcus; machinist's mate (first class), H. H. Lang; gunner's mate (second class), O. Hopewell; Chief Electrician J. Curry; Machinist's mate K. Kuma. The wounded were: Chief Electrician C. Schallin; gunner's mate (second class) A. M. Machinist's Mate (second class) P. S. Stryker.

### Second Army in 1918.

Washington, July 26.—The second increment of the national army of the United States will not be called until 1918, unless there is some change in the war plans now in the hands of the war department. "I have prepared the machinery of the draft for but one turn this year," said Provost Marshal General Crowder.

### Russ Women Fight.

After the Russians had occupied the German positions on both sides of Dvinsk-Vilna railroad, the statement says, entire units returned to their original trenches without German pressure. A number of units refused to obey commands during battle.

Rear Admiral Razvoff has been appointed commander in chief of all the Russian naval forces in the Baltic.

The Russian woman's battalion raised by the twice wounded girl officer, Vera Butchkareff, was in action on the front at Krevo for the first time. They are reported to have been successful, although the battalion suffered some losses, the extent of which is not yet known. The Novoc Vreyma correspondent at the front reports that the women behaved in an exemplary way, gaining the respect of the male soldiers.

## WHAT'LL WE DO TO I. W. W.?

Governors of Eight Western States Send Report of Serious Conditions to Wilson.

Washington, July 26.—"Something must be done immediately about the I. W. W. troubles," is the message brought to Washington today by an emissary from the governors of eight western states where labor troubles have been running riot. George L. Bell of San Francisco, obtained an audience with President Wilson for this afternoon to describe the situation and suggest remedies the western executives believe will be potent if put into effect by federal authorities. He came as the authorized representative of the governors of Washington, California, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, Idaho, Utah and Oregon.

### Canada to Float Loan Here.

Washington, July 26.—The treasury department has sanctioned the floating with the United States of a loan by the Canadian government of \$100,000,000.

### Year in Jail for Radicals.

Cleveland, O., July 26.—A year in the workhouse at Canton—the maximum penalty provided—was the sentence imposed on three prominent socialists, convicted of hindering the draft by Judge Westenhaver in federal court today. The men are C. E. Rathenber, Alfred Wagenknecht and Charles Baker.

## AMERICA MUST SHOW ENORMOUS POWER TO WIN

Observers in Europe Report Germans Are Too Strong to Be Crushed.

## THE BIG WAR DEBT FOR US

Senator Smoot Estimates Nation Will Have to Spend Seventeen Billion Dollars This Year—Air Fleet Necessary.

Washington, July 26.—America's war bill, including budgets already voted and new sums to be asked by the administration, will reach the stupendous total of \$17,000,000,000, Senator Smoot of Utah, one of the leading financial experts in congress, informed the senate.

Washington, July 26.—The European war easily can last until 1919. That is the unanimous opinion of the nine American observers who returned from a tour of the western battle front. These men, all officers of the general staff, made a preliminary report to the war college last night and amplified it. Later they will reduce their observations to writing and will tell in detail just how the war now is going.

While much of the material they brought back is of a confidential nature, it is possible to make public the following conclusions which these trained observers drew:

### Each Side Strong.

There is not the slightest indication that either the entente or the Teutonic allies have weakened at any point.

All along the western battle front, from the sea to the Swiss frontier, both sides are constantly increasing their man power.

The British and French offensive revealed that the German entrenched line—the Hindenburg line—is well-nigh impregnable under existing conditions and the attempted offensive of the Germans has shown them that it is impossible to retake any of the ground lost to the Anglo-French forces. Consequently each side is waiting and utilizing artillery in the hope that some weak spot can be developed.

Both sides are constantly increasing their man power, the German answer to the American draft, as has already been pointed out in these dispatches, having been to call up more than two million of her younger classes to report to the colors next March.

### U-Boat Menace Grave.

The German submarine menace still is very grave. It must be met if the United States is to transport an army to the front—and maintain it there—which will be in keeping with the promises that already have been made.

American troops are very badly needed on the battle front. While the lack of transports has made it seemingly impossible for the United States to get to exceed 250,000 men on French soil by July 1st next, the observers suggested that every effort be made to get additional shipping—even if it has to be drafted from the allies—so that this figure can be made 600,000.

America's opportunity to shorten the war, these officers pointed out, lies entirely in finding a real remedy for the submarine trouble and in creating an aerial fleet that will be better than any now in use. The latter proposition is the easiest, it was suggested, as the submarines seem to be able to keep pace with all suggested engines to curb them.

### Must Hurry Air Fleet.

If the United States is able to construct a standardized airplane engine of high power, and the experts now believe it can be done, it will be possible to smother the German artillery fire and break through the Hindenburg line. But until such a course is possible, these officers say they believe the situation on the western front must continue about as it is, with minor successes for one side or the other at certain points.

Officials of the war college also realize that the Russian situation now must be considered a real factor. They are in the dark as to whether Premier Kerensky can rally his forces so as to oppose the German advance. However, there is no general belief among officers here that Germany plans any wide occupation of Russian soil. To do so would take too much of her man power, which is so badly needed on the western front.

### False Reports Harmful.

The various reports carried from Washington, which tell of enormous

## LUTHER BURBANK



Luther Burbank, the "plant wizard," is reported to be seriously ill at his home in Santa Rosa, Cal.

## WILSON TO HAVE SAY

President Will Direct Peace Terms of Nation.

Discussion Comes Up After Senator Lewis Made His Talk About Mediation.

Washington, July 26.—President Wilson personally will control and direct any and every discussion relating to peace terms in which the United States may be engaged.

The speech made by Senator Lewis, the Democratic whip, indicating his intention to offer a resolution soon to prepare the way for peace negotiations, is attracting much attention and some criticism in administration circles.

Officials do not hesitate to assert that the question of peace terms is "loaded" and capable of presenting the utmost difficulty and embarrassment.

The whole question, if the United States seeks to participate in its solution, brings this country into the position of interfering in European and African and Asiatic politics; but inasmuch as America has entered the war avowedly as the champion of the world's freedom and of the smaller nationalities oppressed or threatened by autocratic government it will become necessary for President Wilson sooner or later to make his position known.

It is not overlooked in Washington that the ambitions of the entente powers themselves, their desires to annex strategic territory and positions claimed on the ground of national security, may lead to wide dissensions among them and it is possible that President Wilson may have to play the role of mediator between them.

At the present moment England is the diplomatic spokesman for all the entente powers, but it was declared on authority today that Britain is not the spokesman for America.

America probably will not participate in the allied conferences called by Russia to be held next month, at which the war aims of the allies are to be restated or "oriented," according to the official Russian declaration.

Bristol.—Military training may be added to the school curriculum of the Bristol public schools.

### Raids on Belgian Front.

London, July 26.—Raids and heavy bombardments were reported from the Belgian front in the official report issued by the war office at noon. An exceptionally big raid was made by the British in the Ypres sector, and, in addition to the Germans killed and wounded, 114 prisoners were captured. In the sectors of Lombardzyde (West Flanders) and Monchy-lez-Preaux (Arras front), the artillery dueling is intense. The German guns, it is stated, are more active than usual.

Drafts of soldiers to be sent to the front at once, are not welcomed by the army staff. They say that not only does it do damage in making the people of the country underestimate the task ahead of the nation, but that it has interfered with bringing the regular army and they National Guard up to war strength. Tuesday's story that the second increment of the National army was immediately to be called to the colors was characterized as utterly absurd by officers who know the facts.